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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/468,581	12/20/1999	TAKASHI MNAMI	200133-20007	3801

26021 7590 03/26/2004

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EXAMINER

TRAN, HENRY N

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2674

DATE MAILED: 03/26/2004

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/468,581

Applicant(s)

MNAMI ET AL.

Examiner

HENRY N TRAN

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 1/21/04 and RCE 3/3/04.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 3-10, 13-15 and 17-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 3-10, 13-15 and 17-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 20 December 1999 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 1/21/04 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
2. Claims 3,9-10, 13, 15 and 17-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Milner et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,339,410, hereinafter referred to as "Milner") in view of Gouko (U.S. Patent No. 6,222,507).

Milner teaches generally all, including, the first supporting member comprising the two arms 34 and 68 for connecting to both the second display device 30 and the second support member comprising supports 60, 70 and 72; as discussed in section 3 of the Final Office action mailed 11/03/03 (Paper No. 18). Gouko teaches a second display device 3 having a display screen smaller than that of the first display device 2 as discussed in section 3 of the Final Office action. Although Milner does not teach "a single arm" for directly connecting to both the second display device as claimed in the amended base claims 3, 13 and 17. It would have been obvious

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to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize the teachings of Gouko in the Milner device for producing the claimed invention; wherein, "a single arm" instead of "the two arms 34 and 68" of the Milner device is used. The motivation for doing so was provided in the said Office action; also, the use of a single arm instead of the two arms would provide a simple connection, which is easily to modify. Claims 3,9-10, 13, 15 and 17-24 are therefore stand rejected.

3. Claims 4, 6 and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Milner in view of Gouko, hereinafter referred to as "Milner-Gouko", as applied to claims 3 and 13, and further in view of Crossland et al (U.S. Patent No. 4,720,781, hereinafter referred to as "Crossland") as discussed in sections 7-10 of the Final Office action noted above.

4. Claim 5 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Milner-Gouko in view of Crossland, hereinafter referred to as "Milner-Gouko-Crossland", as applied to claim 4, and further in view of Register (U.S. Patent No. 5,590,021), as discussed in section 8 of the Final Office action.

5. Claims 7 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over "Milner-Gouko-Crossland" as applied to claims 1, 4 and 6, and further in view of Fowler (U.S. Patent No. 6,302,612) as discussed in sections 12-14 of the Final Office action.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments filed 1/21/04 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Because they basically rely upon the newly added claim terms "a single arm" in the base claims 3, 13 and 17, which is addressed in section 2 discussed above.

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HENRY N. TRAN whose telephone number is 703-308-8410. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon – Fri from 8:00AM – 4:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, RICHARD A. HJERPE, can be reached at 703-305-4709.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

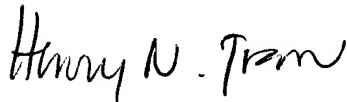
or fax to:

703-872-9306

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is 703-306-0377.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Henry N. Tran". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'H' and a long, sweeping tail on the 'n'.

HENRY N. TRAN
Examiner
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Hnt
March 18, 2004